

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/779,436

Examiner

Michael C. Zarroli

Applicant(s)

ELBAZ, SHIMON

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/9/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-12 and 14-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

MICHAEL C. ZARROLI
PRIMARY EXAMINER



EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Seth Natter on 6/13/05. The examiner amendment is being made because a limitation was not positively recited.

The application has been amended as follows: **Revise claim 12 as indicated on the following page.**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The combination of claim 1 specifically the flare at the blind end that is axially registered with the thread. The combination of claim 12 specifically the smooth walled sleeve being thermoplastic and after relative motion between the connector and conduit providing a seal by forcing the end of the conduit against the cylindrical wall. The examiner agreed with the applicant's argument about claim 16 and appreciates the applicant making of record a definition for "buttress thread."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Gretz (US6642451) teaches some but not all of the connector being made of thermoplastic. Gretz also does not teach a thread, components 80, 90 are tangs not threads.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael C. Zarroli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

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12. (Currently Amended) A method of connecting a length of flexible non-metallic electrical conduit to an electrical junction box having an access aperture, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a one piece molded thermoplastic connector having a smooth walled cylindrical sleeve at one end, a threaded nipple at the other end, a transverse flange intermediate the ends and a bore extending from end to end,
- b) surrounding at least a portion of the smooth walled sleeve with a concentric cylindrical wall to provide an annular cylindrical channel,
- c) providing a thread projecting radially inwardly from the cylindrical wall and into the channel,
- d) dimensioning the smooth walled sleeve and the cylindrical wall such that an end of a length of flexible non-metallic electrical conduit can be received within the channel,
- e) inserting the smooth walled sleeve into an end of the length of conduit,
- f) sliding the conduit over the smooth walled sleeve and into the channel,
- g) seating the conduit within the channel by engaging a surface of the conduit with the thread and providing relative rotation between the connector and the conduit,
- h) sealing the conduit by forcing an end portion of the conduit against the cylindrical wall,

i) inserting the nipple through the access aperture of the electrical junction box, and

j) fastening the connector to the electrical junction box by threading a nut over the nipple and tightening the nut until the flange abuts an outer surface of the electrical junction box.